

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00838 290610Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 SSO-00 /011 W

-----120998 290612Z /21

O 281440Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6021

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 0838

FOR AF ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, MZ

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS - DRAFT COUNTRY EVALUATION PLAN

REF: STATE 144179

1. THE DRAFT COUNTRY EVALUATION PLAN FOR MOZAMBIQUE LOOKS GOOD TO US. WE SUGGEST ONLY ONE MINOR CHANGE IN PARA 2A3, I.E. THAT SENTENCE BEGINNING "FOOD SHORTAGES ARE COMMONPLACE..." READ AS FOLLOWS: "FOOD SHORTAGES ARE COMMONPLACE, HEALTH CARE HAS BEEN DISRUPTED AS THE RESULT OF NATIONALIZATION OF MEDICAL SERVICES, AND OPPORTUNITIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION HAVE BEEN CURTAILED IN AN ATTEMPT TO SUPPLY MANPOWER NEEDS." WHILE HEALTH CARE HAS ADMITTEDLY DETERIORATED FOR THOSE WHO IN THE PAST COULD AFFORD MEDICAL CARE, IT HAS NOT DETERIORATED FOR THE VAST MAJORITY OF POOR MOZAMBICANS: IN FACT, THEY PROBABLY HAVE MORE ACCESS TO MEDICAL CARE TODAY THAN BEFORE INDEPENDENCE. PRIMARY EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE MAJORITY OF MOZAMBICANS HAVE ALSO BEEN ENHANCED SINCE INDEPENDENCE. IT IS ONLY AT THE HIGHER LEVELS OF SECONDARY EDUCATION AND UNIVERSITY TRAINING THAT OPPORTUNITIES HAVE BEEN CURTAILED.

2. FOLLOWING IS OUR DRAFT FOR PARAS B2 AND B3 OF COUNTRY PLAN OUTLINE:

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PAGE 02 MAPUTO 00838 290610Z

B2 - THERE HAS BEEN NO PUBLIC REACTION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE TO THE NEW U.S HUMAN RIGHTS POLICIES. THE EMBASSY HAS SENT U.S. POLICY STATEMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND HAS RAISED THE SUBJECT PRIVATELY WITH THEM, BUT THUS FAR WE HAVE NOT ELICITED ANY COMMENTS THAT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED AUTHORITATIVE. THE GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED MEDIA HAVE BEEN CRITICAL OF OUR POLICY, GENERALLY PARROTING THE SOVIET LINE WHEN

COMMENTING ON THE SUBJECT. WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF THE LOCAL CHURCHES, WHICH AAT THE MOMENT ARE PREOCCUPIED WITH SURVIVING IN A HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT, THERE ARE NO PUBLIC OUTLETS FOR EXPRESSION OF PRIVATE OPINION.

B3 - THE MOST EFFECTIVE ACTION THE U.S. GOVERNMENT CAN TAKE TO PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS IN MOZAMBIQUE IS TO FACILITATE A PEACEFUL AND RAPID SOLUTION TO THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM. MANY OF THE MORE ARBITRARY METHODS PURSUED BY THE MOZAMBIQUE GOVERNMENT IN DENYING HUMAN RIGHTS ARE REACTIONS TO THE INCURSIONS BY THE SMITH REGIME AND CONCOMITANT INSECURITY FELT BY THE MOZAMBIQUE GOVERNMENT. HOWEVER, THE MARXIST-LENINIST FORM OF GOVERNMENT ADOPTED BY THE MOZAMICANS AND THE SOVIET AND EAST GERMAN INFLUENCE IN THE PARTY AND MEDIA POSE OBSTACLES TO ANY IMPROVEMENT WITH RESPECT TO CIVIL AND POLITICAL LIBERTIES.  
DE PREE

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009